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REMARKS

Applicants have amended claims 1, 5, 6 and 7, and have cancelled claims 2-4 and 8-20. Claims 1, 5 and 6 are presently pending in the application.

Applicants would like to thank Examiner Andy Huynh for his thorough search and review of the prior-art, his careful consideration and examination of the present application and claims, and his indication that claims 4 and 5 contain allowable subject matter. In particular, Examiner Huynh stated that claims 4 and 5 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims.

Applicants have amended claim 1 to include the subject matter of dependent claims 3 and 4, as originally presented, and thus submit that claim 1 is allowable.


Regarding the Office Action's rejection of claims 1-3, 6 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Lee (U.S. Patent No. 6,841,793), and rejection of claims 12 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Lowrey et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,750,079), applicants have amended the claims to contain the allowable subject matter of originally-filed claims 3 and 4. In particular, regarding these rejections, the only pending independent claim now pending has the allowable subject matter of claims 3 and 4 incorporated therein. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §102(e).

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In view of the above, Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for allowance, and an early indication of same is requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned with any questions

Respectfully submitted,


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